

AMENDMENTS

Please enter the following amendment without prejudice or disclaimer.

In the Specification:

On page 1, please insert the following paragraph at line 7:

Reference to Related Patent Applications

C' This application is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 08/593,544, filed January 30, 1996, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 08/446,691, filed June 7, 1995, now abandoned, which is a 371 national phase filing of PCT/US94/09661, filed August 25, 1994, which designated the U.S., which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 08/112,440, filed August 26, 1993, now abandoned.

In the Claims:

Please cancel all pending claims without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add the following claims.

202. (New) A composition comprising:

a plasmid including an immunostimulatory nucleic acid sequence comprising AACGTT, wherein C is unmethylated, and an antigen in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the antigen is encoded in the plasmid.

C² 203. (New) The composition of claim 202, wherein the plasmid is pREP7 encoding an antigen.

204. (New) A method of treating an allergy in a vertebrate, comprising administering to the vertebrate an effective amount of an immunostimulatory nucleic acid in a plasmid, said immunostimulatory nucleic acid comprising 5'CG3', wherein C is unmethylated, and an

C² effective amount of an antigen which stimulates production of allergy-associated IgE antibodies
in the vertebrate, wherein said antigen is encoded in the plasmid.
